IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:   09/846,200

Filing Date: May 2, 2001

Appellant: Gregory CIURPITA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2665

Examiner: J. Wozniak

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATIC RECOGNITION OF LONG SEQUENCES OF SPOKEN DIGITS

) Conf No: 4515

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office   November 13, 2006
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice mailed October 13, 2006, and as a supplement to the Appeal Brief filed March 6, 2006, Appellants submit the following remarks.

(5)   <u>SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER</u>:

Example embodiments relate to a method and system for an automatic speech recognition system 100. As illustrated in FIGS. 2 and 3, the speech recognition system 100 may included a receiver 125 for receiving at least a current subgroup of speech units that form part of a complete speech sequence that is to be input by a user, the complete speech sequence being embodied as at least one of a word and a password comprised of a plurality of alphanumeric characters, the subgroup being one or more alphanumeric characters of the complete speech sequence; a detector 300 for detecting a natural pause after receiving the alphanumeric characters; a speech recognition unit 123 for detecting a natural pause between input subgroups to output a recognition result representative of the current subgroup such that a pause between two alphanumeric characters in a given subgroup or a pause between one alphanumeric character and a subgroup are detected; and a controller 135 for evaluating the output recognition result and feeding back the recognition result to the user, wherein the recognition result is interrupted by the user prior to being fed back for verification.[1]

By such configuration, the system attempts to provide feedback after each subgroup by repeating the recognition results, allowing the user to correct the results if erroneous. Additionally, the system may take advantage of an observation that a user not only naturally speaks slower when errors in recognition occur, but will also naturally speak in smaller groups of speech units as repeated errors in speech verification occur.[2]

Moreover, regardless of the number of subgroups or utterances, all recognition results may be confirmed (e.g., after being fed back to the user, all recognition results are assumed to be confirmed unless explicitly rejected by the user; such as through a negative command like "no" for example). Accordingly, results that have already been confirmed can still be rejected, simply by repeated rejections. Further, even if the initial bad results are not rejected by the user, and subsequent errors are added thereto, the system provides the user the ability to skip

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[1]   Appellants' specification, paragraphs [0051] – [0065].
[2]   Appellants' specification, paragraph [0008].

back (i.e., to previous, previous-previous subgroup, etc.) where necessary to correct mistakes.[3]

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons set forth above, Appellants respectfully request that this Appeal be granted by the panel and that the Examiner be reversed.

In the event that any matters remain at issue in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 in the Northern Virginia area, for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By _____

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[3] Appellants' specification, paragraph [0029].

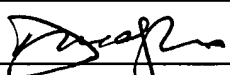Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box ⟶ +

TRANSMITTAL FORM *(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*		
	Application Number	09/846,200
	Filing Date	May 2, 2001
	Inventor(s)	Gregory CIURPITA et al.
	Group Art Unit	2665
	Examiner Name	James S. Wozniak
	Attorney Docket Number	29250-000492/US

ENCLOSURES *(check all that apply)*

☐ Fee Transmittal Form

    ☐ Fee Attached

☐ Amendment

    ☐ After Final

    ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐ Extension of Time Request

☐ Express Abandonment Request

☐ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application

☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

☐ Assignment Papers *(for an Application)*

☐ Letter to the Official Draftsperson and _____ Sheets of Formal Drawing(s)

☐ Licensing-related Papers

☐ Petition

☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application

☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address

☐ Terminal Disclaimer

☐ Request for Refund

☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____

☐ After Allowance Communication to Group

☐ LETTER SUBMITTING APPEAL BRIEF AND APPEAL BRIEF (w/clean version of pending claims)

☐ Appeal Communication to Group *(Notice of Appeal, Brief, Reply Brief)*

☐ Proprietary Information

☐ Status Letter

☒ Other Enclosure(s) *(please identify below)*:

Response to Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief

Remarks

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name Gary D. Yacura	Reg. No. 35,416
Signature			
Date	November 13, 2006		